

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

MARCIA A. WISE ET AL.

Serial No.:

Filed: May 24, 2001

(By Express Mail)

A Division of

Serial No. 09/648,718

Which was Filed: August 25, 2000

For: ANTI-CLOTTING METHODS AND
APPARATUS FOR INDWELLING
CATHETER TUBES

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Docket: 7733.D2

Probable

Art Unit: 3763

Probable

Examiner: KEVIN C. SIRMONS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification

Page 1, between lines 2 and 3 insert the following continuity statement:

- - Continuity

This application is a division of our copending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/648,718, filed August 25, 2000, now U.S. Letters Patent _____, which is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/345,892 filed July 1, 1999, now _____. - -

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1 through 54, without prejudice.

Please add the following claims:

--55. In combination, a catheter tube for selective flow through a hollow passageway of the catheter tube to or from a patient and a balloon selectively inflated to close and seal the hollow passageway at a distal end of the catheter tube against entry of blood when flow is not occurring through the hollow passageway;

a seal being interposed between the catheter tube and a stem within the hollow passageway at a proximal end of the catheter tube, the stem being selectively displaceable along the hollow passageway through a central opening in the seal, the seal being selectively compressed by a control to clamp against the stem to prevent stem displacement. - -

- - 56. In combination, a catheter tube comprising a hollow unobstructed passageway for selective liquid flow therethrough to or from a patient and a balloon positionable within the unobstructed passageway and selectively inflated to span across the entire passageway to close, seal and completely occlude all of the hollow passageway at a distal end of the catheter tube against entry of blood when flow is not occurring through the hollow passageway. - -

- - 57. In combination, a catheter tube comprising a hollow unobstructed passageway for selective liquid flow therethrough to or from a patient and a balloon positionable within the unobstructed passageway and selectively inflated to close, seal and completely occlude all of the hollow passageway at a distal end of the catheter tube against entry of blood when flow is not occurring through the hollow passageway, the balloon comprising an expandable portion of a wall of the catheter tube. - -

- -58. In combination, companion ingress and egress catheter tubes for selective flow through a hollow passageway in each catheter tube respectively to and from the patient and a balloon associated with each catheter to accommodating selective inflation of the balloons to generally concurrently close and seal the two hollow passageways at respective distal ends of the ingress and egress catheter tubes against entry of blood from a vessel of the patient when flow is not occurring through the hollow passageways, the balloons being carried near distal ends of spaced inflation/deflation stems extending respectively within the hollow passageways for substantially the full length of the respective catheter tubes;

a seal interposed between each catheter tube and the associated stem within the hollow passageway of said catheter tube at a proximal end of said catheter tube, each stem being selectively displaceable through a central opening within the associated seal;

the seal being selectively compressed by a control to clamp against the associated stem to prevent stem displacement. - -

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to add the appropriate continuity statement.

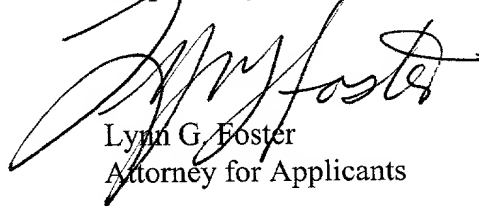
Original Claims 1 through 54 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Applicants, pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.60, by its attorney certifies that this division application as filed is a true copy of the prior patent application. No amendments to the oath or declaration were filed in the parent cases.

Applicants state that the facts alleged in the VERIFIED STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY which was filed in the parent case, copies attached, are no longer. The assignee is a large entity.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending Claims, i.e., Claims 55 through 58 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn G. Foster", is written over the typed name and title.

Lynn G. Foster
Attorney for Applicants

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